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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM PREL UNGA RS
SUBJECT: RUSSIA SUPPORTS U.S. CANDIDATE FOR THE COMMITTEE
ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

REF: A. MOSCOW 05918
 1B. STATE 169375
 1C. STATE 157655

¶1. (SBU) In response to reftel C demarche, the MFA conveyed its support for Pierre Prosper, but stressed its expectation of reciprocal U.S. support for the candidacy of Professor A.S. Avtonomov in the same election.

¶2. (SBU) Text of MFA dipnote:

No. 11521-n/dgpch

The Department for Humanitarian Cooperation and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America in Moscow and, in response to the Embassy's note No. MFA/143/07 of November 22, 2007, has the honor to advise that the Russian Federation will support the candidacy of P. Prosper in the election to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which will take place in the course of the 22nd conference of the member states of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in January of 2008 in New York City.

At the same time, the Department for Humanitarian Cooperation and Human Rights expresses its hope that, taking into account the gentlemen's agreement among the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council on mutual support of their candidacies to U.N. bodies of limited membership, the Government of the United States of America will provide support to the candidacy of Professor A.S. Avtonomov in the same election to the same body.

The Department for Humanitarian Cooperation and Human Rights of the Ministry avails itself of the opportunity to extend to the Embassy renewed assurances of its fairly high consideration.

Moscow, December 20, 2007
(STAMP)

End text.
BURNS